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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

19 JUL 1979

Mr. Michael T. Blouin
Director, Information Security
Oversight Office
General Services Administration (AT)
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Mr. Blouin:

In accordance with ISOO Directive No. 1, Section I.G.9, we request a waiver from the portion marking requirement of Executive Order 12065 for the seven classes of documents listed below. (U)

a. The President's Daily Brief (PDB)

This publication is read only by the President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the President's Assistant for National Security. Many diverse sources are used to compose the contents, often under extreme deadline pressure late at night. The few recipients have no need to be informed of the separate classifications, if any, of the component parts. The classification of material in the PDB is not used as the basis for classifying other documents. (C)

b. National Intelligence Estimates (NIE)

The nature of these documents, as much as the sources of the component parts, often determines the classification. NIEs represent the judgments of the DCI and the Intelligence Community, and have security significance as such. Portion classification could therefore be misleading: components would bear a classification either reflecting only the source material but not the significance of the conclusion drawn or, conversely, reflecting the judgment but implying that the source material dictated the classification. The NIEs are disseminated to a restricted elite list of customers, depending on the subject and any special controls. Judgments and information in NIEs may form a basis for classifying other documents such as NSC studies. (C)

c. National Intelligence Daily (NID)

The NID is a highly sensitive and privileged all-source current intelligence communication published by the Director of Central Intelligence for named principals only. Distribution is limited to the President and Vice President, Dr. Brzezinski and the NSC Staff, and to the principal officers of the policymaking and intelligence communities down to assistant secretary or equivalent level. It is not distributed outside Washington.

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The unique newspaper format of the NID and the diversity of sources that go into its articles combine to make portion classification impractical. Each article, except for one- or two-paragraph newsbriefs, carries the overall classification of the article at the end of the first, or summary paragraph, and again at the end of the article.

Classification of material in the NID is not used as the basis for classifying other documents. (U)

d. Certain Short Deadline Papers

On occasion, it is necessary for the National Foreign Assessment Center to prepare short analytical papers or biographic profiles for policymakers who set deadlines of only a few hours. Rechecking sources of individual elements to separately classify portions could imperil our meeting the requests on time. Such papers are targeted to a few designated consumers--sometimes only one--and would rarely be the basis for classification of other documents. (U)

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f. ADP Data Bases and Computer-Generated Reports

Computerized data bases contain data that range from unclassified through Top Secret. The resources and cost required to portion mark each data item and program the computers to automatically classify computer-generated reports based on the highest classification of the data items displayed would be substantial. Also, many data bases include data items that when processed or reported together may

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require a higher level of classification than any individual item. We cannot economically identify and program all such relationships so that computer-generated reports using such data will be properly classified.

Computer reports generally are only disseminated within the Agency and used for administrative and research purposes.

Computer-generated reports, rather than being portion marked, will carry an overall classification no higher than the data bases from which they are derived. However, textual material organized in paragraphs stored in a computer data base will be portion marked. (U)

g. Studies in Intelligence

Studies in Intelligence is a scholarly journal published by the Central Intelligence Agency for intelligence officers throughout the Government. Portion marking is inappropriate within individual articles of such a journal, as the articles are derived, not from raw intelligence data or sources, but from the thoughts and experiences of intelligence officers. When articles in Studies are classified (and many are unclassified) it is generally because the total effect of the article is to reveal the methods and processes by which secret intelligence is produced. With few exceptions, an article is either totally classified or totally unclassified. In the cases where it is possible to do so, paragraphs within articles will be portion marked.

Studies is disseminated in approximately copies to all elements and levels of the intelligence community and intelligence consumers in the United States and abroad. Articles in Studies never form the basis for classification of other documents, and every effort is made to publish articles at the lowest possible level of classification. (U)

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The classes of documents for which we request portion marking waivers represent only a small percentage of total CIA classified documents. All waiver requests generated within CIA were reviewed either by our Executive Order 12065 implementation task force or by our information security program management. A decision was made as to whether each request was justifiable, and several requests were turned down. Therefore, this request contains only the classes of documents for which we feel a waiver is necessary. (U)

Sincerely,

/s/ Don Wortman

Don I. Wortman
Deputy Director
for
Administration

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